

GARDEN CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

November-December 2010

Hi to our GCCS Families!

We've had a busy month full of incredible creative learning for our children! It's been rewarding having families visit during Student-Led Conferences to hear their students' explanation of their first trimester work! The school is full of great art and other evidence of student learning also!

THANKSGIVING BREAK The school will be closed from November 22-26, so enjoy the extra time with your children!

AUCTION Thanks to Tiffany Coffey, her Auction Committee and everyone who donated or bid at the auction for the wonderful event last Saturday! \$3500 was raised to help cover costs for each of our teachers to cover costs for two field trips. Approximately \$11,000 more was raised to help towards buying more computers to complete our lab, maintenance needs and hopefully additional art equipment.

GARDEN CITY TREE LIGHTING

This event is at 6PM Wednesday, December 1 at City Hall (by the Garden City Library). Our first and second graders will be performing some wonderful songs at the event followed by refreshments provided by City Hall. It's a fun way to kick off the winter season and all GGCS families are invited!

LICE Now that it's getting cold and people are staying inside more...it's time for that favorite unpleasant elementary season of "lice". A few children were found to have lice today, so I'm sending home our standard letter about lice. (It happens in all elementary schools and happens to "anyone"!)

We did a "healthy hair check" today with all the first and second graders and ask *all other families to carefully check their own students' hair tonight*. If you find any lice, please follow the directions to get rid of them. Students are welcome to come back to school the next day and our sweet secretary Jeanna will just do a double check to be sure everything's cleared up. We are always very kind and thoughtful to anyone who has them. With the break next week, it's a good time to get this all cleared out.

(NOTE: when I talked to them today, the Health & Welfare Department says we're doing everything "perfect", our school buildings are clear of lice and this is just a common event. They also said that if a child has a problem with lice and it keeps returning – even after following all the instructions – that the family should get a prescription from a doctor and that always zaps the problem.)

WEBSITE: If you want to know about curriculum, enrollment, good news, special events, etc. at the school, I invite you to read my very detailed "Director's Report" I give to our school board each month. It is now being posted on the website under announcements.

SCHOOL NAME: After several years of stakeholder input, months of Community Council meetings and the final approval of the GCCS Board of Directors, it has been decided to change our school's name to **DaVinci Charter School**. Before this can become official, however, it has to go through an approval process through our authorizers - the Idaho Public Charter School Commission. Our website will have more information soon regarding the rationale and process behind this name change. It's going to be an exciting name to promote and follow – especially considering how well Leonardo DaVinci speaks for our educational philosophy!

HEALTHY FOOD Please remember to send healthy snacks and Friday lunches with your children. We ask that you do not send sugar or caffeine items as this makes the next few hours noticeably different in many children's behavior AND isn't healthy for their bodies!

SNOW DAYS We will only close if the Boise School District announces they are closing...a rare event!

As always, I invite you to contact me with any questions or concerns you have as I love to hear from families! Have a wonderful Thanksgiving Break!

Cindy Hoovel, Director

Cindy.hoovel@gardencityschool.org

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